GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5302
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2005
STOCK EXCHANGES
Pathak Shri Brajesh;Seth Shri Lakshman Chandra

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of stock exchanges operating in the counry alongwith their locations;

(b) the number of shares enlisted in these exchanges, exchange-wise;

(c) the annual turnover in these stock exchanges during the last three years,exchange-wise;

(d) the estimated number of shareholders in the country;

(e) the steps taken to safeguard the interest of shareholders especially small investors and to promote awareness about shares among the people during the last three years (till date);

(f) whether the Government have received any suggestions regarding the functioning of the stock exchanges; and

(g) if so, the action taken/proposed by the Government on these suggestions?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PAUVNIMANICKAM):

(a) to (d) There are 22 recognized stock exchanges functioning in the Indian securities market. The details of their locations, number of shares listed in these exchanges, exchange-wise, annual turnover in these exchanges during the last three years, exchange-wise are given in the following table. The information on estimated number of shareholders in the country is not available/maintained by Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).

(e) SEBI has a double pronged strategy to help small investors. The first is a comprehensive system to redress investor grievance that may arise and the second is a comprehensive campaign to educate common investor about the inherent risks in investments and the rights and responsibilities of investors.

(f) and (g) It is the constant endeavour of the Government and SEBI to ensure smooth and efficient functioning of the stock exchanges. Some of the recent initiatives undertaken, inter-alia, include ope rationalisation of the first phase of INDONEXT trading platform, issue of comprehensive guidelines for Investor Protection Fund (iPF)/Customer Protection Fund (CPF) at the stock exchanges and amendment of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956 paving the way for corporatisation and demutualisation of stock exchanges.